

R 301133Z JAN 86  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029781

FOLLOWING STATE 029781 DTD JAN 30, 1986 SENT ACTION  
ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS, INFO LONDON, PARIS,  
BRUSSELS, BONN, TOKYO, SEOUL, CAIRO, SECDEF, DIA,  
CENTCOM MACDILL AFB, USEUCOM VAIHINGEN, JSOC FT BRAGG,  
BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029781

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [UG](#)

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN UGANDA

11. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

12. FOLLOWING FOR POST'S INFORMATION IS TEXT OF  
INFORMATION MEMO DATED 1/28/86 ON DEVELOPMENTS IN  
UGANDA.

13. BEGIN TEXT. SUMMARY: SOUTHERN GUERRILLAS HAVE WON  
THE CAPITAL AND HEARTLAND OF UGANDA AND HAVE THE  
MILITARY EDGE ON DISSIDENT NORTHERN TRIBES. THE NEW  
HEAD OF STATE IS A FERVENT NATIONALIST WHO LIKELY WILL  
COMBINE THIRD-WORLD RHETORIC WITH PRAGMATIC POLICIES.  
END SUMMARY.

THE 5,000-MAN NATIONAL RESISTANCE ARMY (NRA) NOW  
CONTROLS THE SOUTHERN HALF OF UGANDA AND GAINS GROUND  
DAILY FROM FORMER GOVERNMENT TROOPS IN DISORDERLY  
RETREAT. LONGER TERM, NRA FORCES LIKELY WILL FACE

LOW-GRADE BUSH WARFARE FROM DISSIDENT NORTHERN TRIBES.  
NRA'S SUPERIOR DISCIPLINE AND ORGANIZATION, AND ITS  
CONTROL OVER THE CAPITAL AND ECONOMIC HEART OF UGANDA,  
SHOULD GIVE IT A DECISIVE EDGE. NRA ESCHEWS THE HUMAN  
RIGHTS ABUSES OF FORMER MILITARY LEADERS AND HAS BEEN  
MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN THEY IN WINNING THE POPULATION'S  
AFFECTIONS.

ALL 170 AMERICANS IN UGANDA ARE REPORTED SAFE AND  
KAMPALA IS RETURNING TO NORMAL WITH RESTORATION OF  
POWER, WATER AND TELEPHONE, AND REOPENING OF MARKETS.  
IN CONTRAST TO THE BEHAVIOR OF GOVERNMENT TROOPS AFTER  
THE JULY 85 COUP, NRA SOLDIERS ARE REPORTED TO BE  
WELLDISCIPLINED AND POPULAR WITH TOWNSPEOPLE.

AMBASSADOR HOUEK HAS MET WITH NRA COMMANDER YOWERI  
MUSEVENI AND FEELS WE CAN WORK WITH THE NEW REGIME.  
MUSEVENI MAY BE A STRIDENT INTERLOCUTOR, BUT HIS  
GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT BE INIMICAL TO U.S. INTERESTS.

MUSEVENI'S IDEOLOGICAL ORIENTATION IS MURKY, COMBINING  
FERVENT NATIONALISM, THIRD WORLD RHETORIC AND PRAGMATIC  
OPPORTUNISM. HE DECLARED TO THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY  
THAT HIS FOREIGN POLICY WOULD BE NON-ALIGNED AND THAT  
HE WOULD HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND  
ISRAEL. LIKE MANY UGANDAN FACTIONS, HE HAS SOUGHT  
LIBYAN ASSISTANCE, BUT WAS MOTIVATED PROBABLY MORE BY  
OPPORTUNISM THAN IDEOLOGICAL AFFILIATION. NRA  
REPRESENTATIVES HAVE STRESSED TO US THEIR DESIRE FOR  
GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.

IN HIS WRITINGS, MUSEVENI HAS FAVORED ACTIVE STATE  
GUIDANCE OVER THE ECONOMY. BUT HE HAS ALSO RECOGNIZED  
THAT FREE ENTERPRISE BASED ON SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURE  
IS THE KEY TO UGANDA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. MUSEVENI  
SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WILL WELCOME FOREIGN ASSISTANCE IN  
DEVELOPING PRODUCTIVE ENTERPRISES. OUR AMBASSADOR IS  
ANXIOUS TO RESUME THE AID PROGRAM AND ENGAGE MUSEVENI  
IN DIALOGUE ON UGANDA'S ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL  
EVOLUTION. END TEXT.

¶4. KAMPALA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.  
UNQUOTE

SHULTZ